

Eastport Elementary Newsletter December 2011

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Guardians;

The start of the Christmas Season is well upon us and ALL of us will have our hands full trying to keep the visions of sugarplums dancing in heads at bay.

Due to the hectic pace of the holidays, our December schedule is rather light. As always, we will participate in the Community Holiday Parade, we will have Santa's Secret Shoppe and our annual Christmas Program. Our Christmas Program will be a limited one this year. The Program will feature the 4th graders and it will be here at Eastport. We rotate years with Trenton Avenue to have a whole school program at the high school and it is their turn this year.

The entire staff and I wish you a VERY Happy Holiday Season. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or Quanzza, we sincerely hope your Holiday Season is one of your best ever.

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 3RD - Holiday Parade

DECEMBER 7TH - Santa's Secret Shoppe

DECEMBER 9TH - Picture Retake Day

DECEMBER 20TH - CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

DECEMBER 22ND through JANUARY 2ND - HOLIDAY BREAK

JANUARY 3RD - CLASSES RESUME

HOLIDAY PARADE - the annual Twin City Holiday Parade steps off at 10:00 on Saturday, December 3rd. As has become a custom, Eastport will participate. We have partnered with the Dennison Railroad Festival and will have some students riding in one of their trains as others walk. We hope your child can participate.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOPPE - Santa's Secret Shoppe will be on Wednesday, December 7th. It BEGINS at 4:30 PM and ENDS at 6:30 PM. Eastport Elementary does NOT have this during school hours. IF you are interested in helping, please contact Mrs. Lisa Peters (the parent in charge) or the school.

PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY - If your child missed having his/her picture taken OR the pictures that were taken were unacceptable, re-take day is Friday, December, 9th. We normally have the pictures back before the kids leave for the Holiday Break.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - the program is limited this year to the 4th GRADE ONLY. Due to the unavailability of the high school gym, we must have the program here. Since the 4th Grade will be leaving us at the end of the school year, we have them do it. It will begin at 7:00.

HOLIDAY BREAK - the break begins Thursday, December 22nd and runs through Monday, January 2nd.

CLASSES RESUME - Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 3rd.

PTO CORNER

Again, we wish to thank Lisa Peters for taking care of our Santa's Secret Shoppe.

Each of the classrooms now have the mimio. The six (6) classrooms who do not currently have them installed overhead will have that done over break.

We want to thank all of you for your help with the cookie dough sale. The top sellers were Henry Sanders and Kayla Beckley. Congratulations kids!

From the desk of Mr. Swigert

The Golden Rule

The best way to earn respect is to be respectful of everyone. The *Golden Rule* say "Treat others as you wish to be treated." That is easy when the 'others' are our friends or some one who treats us nice. The *Golden Rule* is more difficult adhere to when the 'others' are not so nice or fit our own prejudices. We must remember the *Golden Rule* is for **everyone** not just those we wish to impress. Think how we react when someone is rude or disrespectful to us? Think how we treat someone with a different skin color, culture, or someone who is not dressed as well as us or as clean as we are. Think about how we have acted in the past. Here are a few we may have been guilty of:

Rolling our eyes at someone or behind someone's back.

Snickering or laughing at someone's answer in class.

Never saying "Hi." to someone we see everyday.

Never smiling at someone we think is below us.

Thinking someone is not as important as we are.

Saying they are not good enough to be on our team.

Saying they can't be in our club.

Not listening to someone else when they talk.

Calling someone a name that is mean, like:

Stupid

Retard

Dirt bag

Four eyes

Freak

Fat (The list can go on but you got the idea.)

If we have been honest, we most likely have said or done some of these things. The great thing about life is; we can change. We don't need to act disrespectful. We can become better. In fact we will become happier and have more friends and people who respect us. We don't need use our actions to hurt someone. We need to use our actions to become a better people.